GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:232
ANSWERED ON:18.03.2005
PROPOSAL UNDER SJGSY
Bhagora Shri Mahavir

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether proposals from several States under Swarn Jayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana were received by the Union Government for approval during the last two years;

(b) if so, the reasons for not clearing them so far and the time by which they are likely to be cleared;

(c) whether many State Governments have not properly utilized the funds sanctioned by Union Government for the scheme and that complaints regarding misuse of funds have also been received by the Ministry;

(d) if so, the details thereof during the last two years;

(e) Whether cooperation from NGOs is also being taken for implementation of Swarn Jayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH)

(a) to (f) A statement is laid on the table of the House.

Statement referred to in reply to the Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 232 admitted for reply on 18.3.2005.

1. Under the main scheme of Swarna Jayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY) the Ministry of Rural Development does not sanction individual projects to States. Only allocation is released in favour of the District Rural Development Agencies (DRDAs) on a normative basis for implementation of the scheme. However, under the Special Projects component of SGSY, the Ministry of Rural Development has received 253 proposals from several States for approval during the last two years. The proposals received under SGSY Special Projects are first scrutinized to verify whether the minimum requirements prescribed in the guidelines such as forwarding of projects by the State Governments, Commitment of the State Government for meeting 25% State share, Bank`s commitment, if credit is involved, focus on the Below Poverty Line (BPL) population, consistency and viability of the concept etc. are being met by the proposals. If the project proposals do not fulfill the above requirements, they are returned to the concerned State Governments. There is a two tier of approval process for these project proposals. The proposals, which meet the prescribed requirements, are first screened by the Project Screening Committee (PSC). Proposals recommended by the Project Screening Committee are placed for consideration of the Project Approval committee (PAC). Both these committees are inter-Ministerial committees with representatives from the Planning Commission. The approval of the proposals is a continuous process and different proposals are at various stages of approval. In total 40 proposals during 2003-04 and 20 proposals during 2004-05 (so far) have been approved.

2. Utilization of funds under the sanctioned projects differ from project to project. Whenever fund utilization is not satisfactory, the project implementation authorities are advised to take necessary remedial action. No complaints have so far been received in the Ministry regarding the misuse of funds.

3. Special projects are implemented by Government, Semi governmental organizations which may in turn seek the help of credible NGOs for effective implementation.